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PATENT 56
Attorney Docket No. 01/23015
(Previously 000320US) 3298

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

DAVIDSON, CHARLES J. et al.

Application No.: 09/663,111

Filed: 15 September 2000

For: CATHETER WITH SIDE
SHEATH

§ Confirmation No.: 3759
§
§ Group Art Unit: 3738
§
§ Examiner: P. Prebilio
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§ (MLB Ref. No. 058032-5001)
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§

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R0700

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT

This is in response to the United States Patent and Trademark Office Action mailed August 28, 2002, which response is being made on or before February 28, 2003 along with a Petition for a Three-Month Extension of Time and the required fees. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 1, line 3 with the following paragraph:

CROSS-REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation in part of abandoned U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/614,472, filed July 11, 2000, which is a continuation in part application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/325,996, filed June 4, 1999, now abandoned, and is also a

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continuation in part ~~application~~ of co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. and 09/455,299, filed December 6, 1999.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/325,996, of which the present application is a continuation in part, is a continuation in part of expired PCT application US99/00835, filed January 13, 1999, published under publication number WO99/36002, which claims priority from U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/007,265, filed January 14, 1998 and which issued on April 3, 2001 as U.S. Patent Number 6,210,429, which is a continuation in part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/744,002, filed November 4, 1996, now abandoned. U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/325,996, of which the present application is a continuation in part, also claims priority from abandoned U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/935,383, filed September 23, 1997, which is a divisional application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/744,002, filed November 4, 1996, now abandoned. U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/325,996, of which the present application is a continuation in part, also claims priority from abandoned U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/007,265, filed January 14, 1998 and which issued on April 3, 2001 as U.S. Patent Number 6,210,429, which is a continuation in part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/744,002, filed November 4, 1996, now abandoned. U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/325,996, of which the present application is a continuation in part, also claims priority from abandoned U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/088,301, filed June 5, 1998.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/455,299, of which the present application is a continuation in part, claims priority from abandoned U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/088,301, filed June 5, 1998, and is also a continuation in part application of

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abandoned U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/325,996, filed June 4, 1999. U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/455,299, of which the present application is a continuation in part, also claims priority from abandoned U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/007,265, filed January 14, 1998 and which issued on April 3, 2001 as U.S. Patent Number 6,210,429, which is a continuation in part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/744,002, filed November 4, 1996, now abandoned. Patent Application Serial No. 09/455,299, of which the present application is a continuation in part, also claims priority from abandoned U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/935,383, filed September 23, 1997, which is a divisional application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/744,002, filed November 4, 1996, now abandoned. The complete disclosures of the above-referenced applications are herein incorporated by reference.

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Please replace the paragraph starting on page 2, line 7, with the following paragraph:

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~~As described in related U.S. Patent Application Nos. 08/744,022 filed 11/04/96 (now abandoned); 09/007,265 filed 01/14/98, now issued as U.S. Patent Number 6,210,429; 08/935,383 filed 9/23/97 (now abandoned); 60/088,301 filed 06/05/98 (now expired); and PCT Patent Application No. PCT/US99/00835 filed 1/13/99, published under Publication Number WO99/36002 on July 22, 1999; systems have been developed for deploying a main stent in a main vessel at the intersection of a main vessel and a branch vessel. Further, a branch stent may be positioned within a branch vessel through a side opening in the main stent. As will be appreciated, such tasks may be challenging.~~

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 7, line 5, with the following paragraph:

Q3 Fig. 4 illustrates the catheter of Fig. 1 after a branch vessel guidewire has been introduced through the side member and into a branch vessel.

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 15, line 20, with the following paragraph:

Q4 Another technique for introducing a branch vessel stent 116 into branch vessel BV following deployment of main vessel stent 86 using catheter 64 is illustrated in Figs. 18 and 19. Following deployment of main vessel stent 86 in a manner similar to that previously described, catheter 64 is removed from the patient while leaving branch vessel guidewire 108 in place. A stent deployment device 118 having a balloon 120 is then advanced over guidewire 108 until branch vessel stent 116 (which is crimped about balloon 120) enters into branch vessel BV as illustrated in Fig. 18. Balloon 120 is then inflated as illustrated in Fig. 19 to deploy branch vessel stent 116. Balloon 120 may then be deflated and stent deployment device 118 withdrawn from the patient leaving in place main vessel stent 86 and branch vessel stent 116. Conveniently, branch vessel stent 116 may include a contacting portion 122 which remains disposed within side hole 88 to secure the proximal end of stent 116 to side hole 88 of main vessel stent 86. Such a contacting portion is described, for example, in PCT Patent Application No. PCT/US99/00835, filed January 13, 1999, published under Publication Number WO99/36002 on July 22, 1999, the complete disclosure of which is herein incorporated by reference.